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study history is to read well-written biographies of leading persons. In this class comes the book before us. Mr. White has produced a standard work, written in a clear style and with a human touch. The years 1813 to 1896 mark the span of Lyman Trumbull's life, a period which embraces the development of nationalism, the downfall of slavery, the settlement of the West, and the emergence of the modern social problem. Trumbull's career came into relation with all these movements. His biographer is a trained writer and careful investigator who enjoyed the advantage of a cordial friendship with him. The book ought to be widely placed in public and private libraries.

Mithraism. By W. J. Phythian-Adams. (Religions Ancient and Modern.) Chicago: Open Court Publishing Co., 1915. Pp. xi+95. \$0.40.

This compact and helpful sketch will give the general reader the main features of the cult of Mithra, which was one of the most striking ancient rivals of Christianity. A few well-chosen reproductions of Mithraic reliefs illustrate the text. The application of the term Latin to the Greco-Roman world is somewhat misleading; indeed the failure of Mithraism to impress the Greek part of the ancient world is one of the clearest findings of Mithraic study. Only the French editions of Cumont's works are mentioned in the bibliography, but certainly his *Oriental Religions in Roman Paganism* and his *Mysteries of Mithra* would be more helpful to the general reader, for whom this little manual is intended. In the commendable effort to treat Mithraism sympathetically the author does not altogether escape exaggerating its resemblances to Christianity, as when he described the Mithraic initiate as baptized to the remission of sins (p. 84). A map showing the points at which Mithraism is known to have been practiced would have been helpful in conjunction with the valuable chapter on Mithra in the Roman Empire, as would a list of the ancient sources, which are not numerous. Greek citations are not always accurately printed (pp. 6, 69, 88), and Memnon for Mnemon (pp. 12, 13) is unfortunate. But the book as a whole is a clear and intelligent sketch of one of the most distinctive of later oriental religions.

He Shall Speak Peace. Compiled by Dignus non sum. Milwaukee: William F. Butler, 1915. Pp. 350. \$1.50.

Photographically reproduced, and set into the front cover, is Dietrich's conception: The impressive figure of Jesus in the storm-tossed boat—illuminated by a shaft of light—the disciples appealing to him—the Master's hands extended over the angry sea, gently compelling peace.

Published as a kind of adventure in "creative faith," this volume seeks to promote the idea of peace with justice by giving copious quotations from the Scriptures, together with poems that support the biblical thought. The compiler, having no personal theories to advance, withdraws from view and leaves us in direct contact with the subject. The world as a whole seems alienated from God. The prodigal is away from home. Humanity wanders blindly in the darkness and stumbles in the wilderness. We need an abiding sense of divine Fatherhood and human Brotherhood. The Bible represents the approach of man and God toward each other; but ignorance and sin are in the way.

To those who are not fully acquainted with the Bible and its underlying message, this compilation will come with the force of novelty. The Hebrew people had a tragic history. Their national life was ruined by social injustice; and they were finally conquered and destroyed by fierce empires. But out of the midst of suffering was born their faith in a God of justice and love. This faith has gradually overspread the world, and its transforming work has hardly begun. The volume before us will help to make plain the essential meaning of the Bible. It will have special value as a giftbook.

Problems of Community Life. By Seba Eldridge. New York: Crowell, 1915. Pp. vi+180. \$1.00.

The betterment of community life depends in part upon the discovery of the factors to be studied, their classification, their standardization, and the creation of a dynamic sufficient to realize the social standards defined. The author describes the significant factors of community life as found in New York City and sets forth the essentials of treatment dictated by a social theory of humaneness. The book serves, therefore, to define and organize social amelioration for the typical industrial community. The studies consist of a bare outline in each case and do not discuss social theory or methodology.

Out of Work: A Study of Unemployment. By Frances A. Kellor. New York: Putnam, 1915. Pp. xiii+569. \$1.50.

In this critical and rather exhaustive study of unemployment the author shows how chaotic and ineffective are the present American methods of attacking this acute problem. The greed and injustice of private employment agencies, whether dealing with day-laborers or teachers, is unsparingly uncovered, as is also the harm of many well-meaning philanthropic attempts whose fields are not clearly defined.

The solution is sought in standardization of all agencies under strict legal control, co-operation especially between the federal government and municipalities, improved supervision

of immigrants, unemployment insurance, and the direction of children into industry. Very many other helpful suggestions are made and a program for America is specifically outlined.

Every American Christian ought to be interested in the problem of assimilating the Jewish immigrants and we should like to see the *Report of the First General Conference of Hebrew Christians* very widely read. Rev. E. Newman, speaking of conditions in Montreal where 60,000 Jews live, says that the synagogues are practically deserted. He found a congregation of three in the Reformed Temple. The conference recommended that every seminary ought to have courses in Jewish mission theory and method, as many a clergyman is likely to be called upon either to preach Christ in communities predominantly Jewish, or help in supporting work of that nature. (Published by Hebrew Christian Alliance of America, Secretary Mr. Mark J. Levy, 260 W. 121st St., New York City.)

Efficiency Points, by W. E. Doughty, is a study in missionary dynamics. It takes up the

missionary ideal of the Bible, the spread of Christianity by personal service, the Christian attitude toward property, and the power of intercession. This little book of 106 pages breathes a spirit of energetic and efficient applied Christianity and deserves all commendations. (Missionary Education Movement and Laymen's Missionary Movement. \$0.25.)

Hermeneutics or Rules for Interpreting the Vulgate, according to the Mind of Saint Francis de Sales, by J. J. Isenring, is a very elaborate treatise which sets forth a somewhat antiquated method of study of the Holy Scriptures. The book has its value as a reference book. Whether it has any practical use for the average reader of the Bible remains doubtful. (Published by Echo, Childs, Cecil County, Maryland.)

The Book of Judges, by H. C. O. Lanchester (Cambridge University Press, 1915), is an excellent edition of the Revised Version, with introduction and notes. Young students will find the book entirely reliable from the point of view of modern scholarship and need not fear that they will have to unlearn it.